

RZ10A

I HAVE RELAYED THIS MESSAGE TO RABAT AND ASKED THAT THE SUBSTANCE BE PASSED TO AMBASSADOR PARKER FOR HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SHAH.

1. [ ] WHILE DISCUSSING GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEAR EAST THIS MORNING WITH A SENIOR MEXICO OFFICIAL, HE INQUIRED ABOUT THE FUTURE PLANS OF THE SHAH OF IRAN. SENIOR OFFICIAL WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SHAH WOULD LIKE TO MOVE ON FROM HIS PRESENT RESIDENCE IN MOROCCO, ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT EXACTLY CLEAR AT THIS TIME WHERE HE WOULD GO.

2. SENIOR OFFICIAL MENTIONED THAT THE SHAH OWNS A VERY EXPENSIVE PIECE OF PROPERTY IN ACAPULCO AND THEN REFLECTED IN GENERAL TERMS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE SHAH COMING TO MEXICO. WHEN ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH AN ACTION, OFFICIAL SAID THAT HE DID NOT FORESEE ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS AND BELIEVED THAT IF THE SHAH WANTED TO COME TO MEXICO, ARRANGEMENTS COULD PROBABLY BE MADE. THE SHAH'S ARRIVAL WOULD GENERATE SOME CRITICISM AND PRESS ATTACK FROM THE LEFT, BUT THIS COULD EASILY BE CONTAINED BY THE GOVERNMENT. SENIOR OFFICIAL CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT BEFORE THE SHAH COULD EVEN THINK ABOUT COMING TO MEXICO, THE PRESIDENT MUST GIVE HIS APPROVAL. IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY NOT OFFER MUCH OBJECTION.

3. WISH TO SPECIFY THAT THE ABOVE REMARKS WERE VOLUNTERED BY THE OFFICIAL AND ARE ONLY BEING FORWARDED FOR THE RECORD.

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4. SHOULD IT COME ABOUT THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN DETERMINING THE SHAH'S FUTURE, THEN SUGGEST IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE SHAH OR ONE OF HIS AIDE'S TO OBTAIN A RELIABLE READING ON THE POSITION OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT THROUGH THIS OFFICIAL. IT IS OUR RECOLLECTION THAT HE MAY HAVE MET THE SHAH WHILE ACCOMPANYING FORMER PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA DURING HIS WORLD TOUR IN 1975. IN ANY OF HIS PRIVATE DEALINGS WITH MEXICAN OFFICIALS ON THIS SUBJECT, THE SHAH SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE SOME TRIBUTE TO ENSURE THAT HIS PETITION WILL BE PROPERLY RECEIVED.